

We claim:

1. A computerized method for ascertaining a suitable institution making a first medical assessment on the basis of a first medical data record of a first patient, comprising the steps of:
 - a) receiving at a central location a first order for the first medical assessment to be made for the first patient from a first location, and
 - b) ascertaining from a set of institutions, on the basis of the first order, the suitable institution for making the first medical assessment on the basis of the first order.
2. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the steps of sending the identity of the ascertained institution from the central location to the first location, wherein the first medical data record of the first patient may be sent to the ascertained institution for the purpose of making the first medical assessment.
3. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first order comprises the first medical data record of the first patient, further comprising the step of forwarding the first medical data record from the central location to the ascertained institution for the purpose of making the first medical assessment.
4. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising, after the sending step, the step of entering the first order in a list, the list comprising orders for which no suitable institution has yet been

ascertained in each case, and the list being able to be inspected by institutions from the set of institutions in order to send an offer for making the medical assessment to the central location.

5. The method as claimed in claim 4, in which the list can be retrieved over the Internet.

6. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of the ascertained institution sending the first medical assessment made to the first location.

7. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the steps of the ascertained institution sending the first medical assessment made to the central location, and the first medical assessment made being forwarded from the central location to the first location.

8. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the institution is a doctor, a team of doctors and/or a hospital.

9. The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein the first medical data record has an associated image, video film, laboratory results for the patient, ECG and/or patient file for the first patient.

10. The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the first medical data record has an associated image, video film, laboratory results for the patient, ECG and/or patient file for the first patient.

11. The method as claimed in claim 10, wherein the associated image has been taken using a medical imaging apparatus.

12. The method as claimed in claim 11, in which the medical imaging appliance is a computer tomograph, a magnetic resonance apparatus, an ultrasound apparatus or an X-ray apparatus.

13. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first order is sent over a data network.

14. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first medical data record and/or the first medical assessment are sent over a data network.

15. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the suitable institution is ascertained at the central location on the basis of at least one criterion.

16. The method as claimed in claim 15, in which the criterion is a demanded quality for the first medical assessment made, a medical specialization of the institution, a period of time for making the first medical assessment, a number of medical assessments which the institution can make in a prescribed period of time, the fee demanded by the institution for making the first medical assessment, and/or legal regulations.

17. The method as claimed in claim 15, in which the criterion is a quality of the first medical data record

received at the central location from the first location.

18. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the step of monitoring at the central location a service provided by the ascertained institution.

19. The method as claimed in claim 18, in which the service provided is a quality of the first medical assessment made, adherence to a prescribed period of time for making the first medical assessment, and/or adherence to the making of a prescribed number of medical assessments.

20. The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the steps of generating an invoice for the first medical assessment made at the central location and sending the invoice to the first location.

21. The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the first order received at the central location from the first location is an order for making a plurality of medical assessments for a plurality of patients, wherein the first order comprises medical data records required for making medical assessments, and wherein the medical assessments are made by one institution or by a plurality of institutions from the set of institutions.

22. The method as claimed in claim 3, further comprising the steps of receiving at the central location a second order for making a second medical

assessment of a second patient from a second location, the second order comprising a second medical data record of the second patient, which second medical data record is required for making the second medical assessment, the central location placing the first and second orders with an institution from the set of institutions as a collective order for making the first and second medical assessments, and sending the first and second medical data records from the central location to the institution.

23. A system for ascertaining a suitable institution for making a medical assessment on the basis of a medical data record of a patient, comprising a database which is arranged at a central location configured to be contacted by an orderer over a data network in order to ascertain the suitable institution, so that the orderer is able to send to the database an order comprising the medical data record for the purpose of ascertaining the suitable institution, means for storing data from a set of institutions, and means for comparing the order with the data which are stored in the means for storing data from a set of institutions.

24. The system as claimed in claim 23, further comprising forwarding means configured to forward the medical data record to the ascertained institution.

25. The system as claimed in claim 23, further comprising means for producing an invoice wherein the invoice producing means is configured to produce an invoice for ascertaining the suitable institution and send the invoice to the orderer.

26. The system as claimed in claim 23, further comprising means for checking the quality of the medical assessment made by the institution.

27. A system, comprising a database operatively coupled to a central processor, wherein the system is configured to:

- a) store data for a set of institutions,
- b) receive from a first location a first order for a first medical assessment to be made for a first patient, wherein the first order comprises a first medical data record of the first patient,
- c) compare the first order with the stored data for the set of institutions,
- b) select an institution from the set of institutions based on the comparison, wherein the selected institution is suitable for making a medical assessment of the first patient, and
- c) forward the first medical data record to the selected institution.

28. A computerized method, comprising the steps of:

- a) receiving at a central location from a first location a first order for a first medical assessment to be made for a first patient, wherein the first order comprises a first medical data record of the first patient,
- b) based on the first order and the first medical data record, selecting at the central location an institution from a set of institutions, wherein the selected institution is

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